

The Bible records several instances of individuals being restored to life through divine intervention. These accounts span both the Old and New Testaments, showcasing God's power over death through His prophets and apostles.

Old Testament Instances

1. **The Widow of Zarephath's Son** (1 Kings 17:17–24)

During a great drought, the prophet **Elijah** stayed with a widow. When her son grew ill and stopped breathing, Elijah carried the boy to the upper room, stretched himself out over the child three times, and cried out to God. The boy's life returned to him.

2. **The Shunammite Woman's Son** (2 Kings 4:18–37)

The prophet **Elisha** had promised a son to a wealthy woman of Shunem. Years later, the boy suffered a sudden head pain and died. Elisha went to the house, shut the door, and prayed. He lay upon the child, mouth to mouth and eye to eye, until the boy's body grew warm and he sneezed seven times before opening his eyes.

3. **The Man Tossed into Elisha's Tomb** (2 Kings 13:20–21)

In a unique posthumous miracle, some Israelites were burying a man when they saw a band of Moabite raiders. In their haste, they cast the body into the tomb of **Elisha**. As soon as the dead man's body touched Elisha's bones, the man revived and stood on his feet.

New Testament Instances

4. **The Widow of Nain's Son** (Luke 7:11–17)

As **Jesus** approached the town of Nain, He met a funeral procession for a widow's only son. Moved with compassion, Jesus touched the open coffin and commanded, "Young man, I say to you, arise." The man sat up and began to speak.

5. **Jairus' Daughter** (Mark 5:21–43, Matthew 9:18–26, Luke 8:40–56)

Jairus, a synagogue leader, pleaded with **Jesus** to heal his dying twelve-year-old daughter. Before they arrived, word came that she had died. Jesus entered the house, took her by the hand, and said, "*Talitha kum*" (Little girl, I say to you, arise). She immediately stood up and walked.

6. **Lazarus of Bethany** (John 11:1–44)

Perhaps the most famous instance, Lazarus had been in the tomb for four days. **Jesus** ordered the stone to be rolled away and cried out with a loud voice, "Lazarus, come forth!" Lazarus emerged from the tomb, still bound in his grave clothes.

7. **The Saints in Jerusalem** (Matthew 27:52–53)

At the moment of Jesus' death on the cross, an earthquake occurred, and tombs were opened. The Bible records that many bodies of the **saints who had fallen asleep** were raised; they coming out of the tombs after His resurrection, entered the holy city, and appeared to many.

8. **Tabitha (Dorcas)** (Acts 9:36–42)

In Joppa, a disciple named Tabitha, known for her good works, became ill and died. The

apostle **Peter** was sent for. After asking everyone to leave the room, he knelt and prayed. Turning to the body, he said, "Tabitha, arise." She opened her eyes and sat up.

9. **Eutychus** (Acts 20:7–12)

While the apostle **Paul** was giving a lengthy sermon in Troas, a young man named Eutychus fell asleep while sitting in a third-story window. He fell to the ground and was picked up dead. Paul went down, threw himself on the youth, and embraced him, saying, "Do not be alarmed, for his life is in him." The young man was later led away alive.
